



University of North Florida
UNF Digital Commons

Division on Women and Crime Documents and
Correspondence

American Society of Criminology - Division on
Women and Crime

Spring 2004

DivisioNews (Spring 2004, Issue 15)

American Society of Criminology Division on Women and Crime.

Susan Sharp

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.unf.edu/dwctext>



Part of the [Criminology and Criminal Justice Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

DivisioNews (Spring 2004, Issue 15). 2004. American Society of Criminology - Division on Women and Crime Collection. University of North Florida, Thomas G. Carpenter Library Special Collections and Archives. UNF Digital Commons, <https://digitalcommons.unf.edu/dwctext/151/>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the American Society of Criminology - Division on Women and Crime at UNF Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Division on Women and Crime Documents and Correspondence by an authorized administrator of UNF Digital Commons. For more information, please contact [Digital Projects](#).

© Spring 2004 All Rights Reserved



DivisionNews

**Spring 2004
Issue #15**



AMERICAN SOCIETY
OF CRIMINOLOGY

**Division
on Women
and Crime**

Est. 1984

Inside this issue:

Letter from the Chair

News and Announcements

Book Reviews

Graduate Student Corner

**Employment and Funding
Opportunities**

Beyond Prison Conference

Past Issues of DivisioNews

Division on Women and Crime

Questions About Listserver

Column Contacts

Suggestions and Comments

DivisionNews

News
Letter from the Editor
Book Reviews
Ask a Tenured Professor
Grad Student Corner
Profiles



Spring 2004 - Issue #15

Letter from the Chair

Dear friends and colleagues (both new and not-so new),

As I wind up the spring semester, I feel guilty that I have not been more on top of DWC things! The good news is that we were able to set up a special session celebrating the past present and future of the DWC and feminist criminology. We are also participating in an exciting first time ever session of all the divisions!

The bad news is that I have had not had time to do as much for the DWC as I would have liked. However, my slate is now almost cleared so I intend to be working on it over the next two weeks. I plead temporary insanity. Due to an oversight on my part, I ended up teaching six (yes, 6!) classes this spring, finishing my book, and taking over as the graduate chair for my department. However, other than "having to" teach a one week class in Germany (all expenses paid) my summer is free to work on DWC things and to do research. Many of you will be hearing from me soon! We want this to be an exciting celebration of our anniversary.

I had brought up the possibility of doing our own journal as one of the things I would like to address during my tenure. If we do this, we need to be very careful to continue to support Women & Criminal Justice as well. I would love to hear your thoughts on this.

I hope everyone has a happy and healthy summer!

Regards,

Susan Sharp

DivisioNews

News
Letter from the Editor
Book Reviews
Ask a Tenured Professor
Grad Student Corner
Profiles



Spring 2004 - Issue #15

News and Announcements

Hi Everyone,

The semester is winding down, summer is winding up, and we are all as busy as ever! Thanks to everyone who sent in some member news. It's inspiring to hear about the great work being done and accolades being received by DWC members. I look forward to seeing everyone at the meetings, especially at all the DWC functions!

Regards,
Amy D'Unger
Associate Editor, Member News
DWC DivisioNews

First, a message from our esteemed DivisioNews editor, Kristin Parsons Winokur, in regards to the DWC website....

"In the spirit of spring cleaning, I thought I would offer to make changes or updates to the main DWC web site (www.criminology.fsu.edu/dwc). Please take a look at the site and if you have requests for changes or additions, please submit them to Susan Sharp, DWC Chair, at ssharp@ou.edu. While my regular spring-cleaning will no doubt span well into summer, I would like to try to have suggested web site changes by May 31st. Thanks!"

NEWS YOU CAN USE

Amanda Burgess-Proctor has some wonderful news at school and in her personal life (who knew we had those?!?). She was just named the 2004 Outstanding Graduate Student Woman by the MSU Faculty-Professional Women's Association. The FPWA is an MSU organization that recognizes excellence in contributions to the lives of university women at the graduate student, professional (staff), and faculty levels. Even more exciting, she is only 5 weeks away from the much-anticipated debut of her daughter. We wish you all the best.

Roz Muraskin is as busy as ever writing and editing the books we use in class. The fourth edition of VISIONS FOR CHANGE: CRIME AND JUSTICE IN THE 21ST CENTURY is out--all 702 pages of it!

A book entitled MEDIA AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE, co-authored with a New York Times writer, is also in the works and due out in 2005, as is VOICES FROM WITHIN: AN ETHNOGRAPHY OF PRISONS.

Finally, Roslyn has written a collaborative grant for an Interdisciplinary Study in Gender that just might include Freda Adler, Susan Sharp, and Janice Joseph in the opening plenary session!

Walter DeKeseredy is making a move. He has accepted a position at the University of Ontario Institute of Technology's School of Criminology and Justice Studies (say that five times fast!) and will be moving there at the end of August. Shahid Alvi and Barb Perry will also be joining him in the move. Congratulations to you! Walter also has a new book published titled UNDER SIEGE: POVERTY AND CRIME IN A PUBLIC HOUSING COMMUNITY (2003, Lexington

Books). The book is co-authored with Shahid Alvi, Martin D. Schwartz, and E. Andreas Tomaszewski.

Jim Messerschmidt's new book is also on the way--look for it in September of this year. The title is FLESH AND BLOOD: ADOLESCENT GENDER DIVERSITY AND VIOLENCE. It's yet another contribution from the productive, intellectually engaged, and creative members of the DWC.

Pat Carlen and Anne Worrall have a new text that was just published last week: (2004) ANALYSING WOMEN'S IMPRISONMENT, published by Willan. Available NOW in US from International Specialized Book Services, 920 NE 58th Street, Suite 300, Portland, OR 97213-3786, USA, tel 503 287 3093, fax 503 280 8832, e mail orders@isbs.com, website www.isbs.com.

DWC NOMINATIONS SOUGHT

Jeanne Flavin is organizing nominations for the DWC while Helen Eigenberg is on sabbatical. This year, the DWC is seeking nominations for the Vice Chair and two executive counselor positions (each two-year terms). Also, if possible, Susan Sharp and the Executive Board would like to identify candidates for the Vice Chair position who could bring their knowledge and experience to bear on the Division's efforts to successfully nominate our members for ASC awards and positions of leadership. Please email nominations (including contact information for nominee) to me at jflavin@fordham.edu by August 20th. Self nominations are welcome. If you nominate someone else, I would appreciate it if you would check with that person first to make sure they're interested! Thank you.

DivisioNews

News
Letter from the Editor
Book Reviews
Ask a Tenured Professor
Grad Student Corner
Profiles



Spring 2004 - Issue #15

Graduate Student Corner

Greetings to all! The end of another academic year is fast approaching, and I am sure that everyone is digging in for the summer months ahead. Congratulations to recent graduates and to new faculty members and practitioners who are looking forward to new transitions and adventures.

I would like to take a moment to thank Amanda Burgess-Proctor for all the great columns she has submitted to the DWC's DivisioNews. To be sure, she is going to be a tough act to follow. However, I am really looking forward to heading up the Graduate Student Corner column, and I really appreciate all her insight and help. Also, thanks to Kristin Winokur for such a warm welcome and helping me get acquainted with the newsletter.

Considering that this is a time of endings and new beginnings, I have been thinking back to my early years as a graduate student. As I write this, I believe this time is very poignant because new cohorts of graduate students will be descending upon their respective departments and universities within the next four months. As a new academic year approaches, new grad students may experience a variety of emotions including, but not limited to: excitement, nervousness, fear, confusion, and exhilaration. What might their new roles bring them?

Looking back, there are several things that I wished I had known, done and/or had not done as a new graduate student. These insights, to me, might have helped me get through my first couple of years with a better idea of what the graduate student experience can bring- they could have also mitigated the anxiety, fear and confusion that I encountered.

According to The Chronicle of Higher Education, the national graduate student attrition rate has averaged around 50 percent across disciplines-with some departments losing even higher percentages of their grad students. In hopes of keeping our students around longer, I designed this piece to offer some insight and advice to new graduate students to give them an idea of some of the issues that many grads face as they begin their programs. I had the opportunity to chat with grads with multiple years under their belts, as well as a professor or two. My thanks go out to Stacy Mallicoat, Jadi Morrow, Garian Vigil, Patricia Vigil and others for their observations, thoughts and time.

Graduate students who are in later stages of their programs may be able to recall the excitement, trials and tribulations of their first couple of years. As a grad who has been in a program for a couple of years or more, it is often easy to overlook (just from self-induced post traumatic stress alone) how new graduate students may feel as they navigate the hallways, and campuses of their new "home." Some of us may even be jaded enough to forget, or wish to forget, what it was like to be in their shoes.

At a recent conference, I asked people to look back at their grad experiences and think about anything they would have done differently during their first couple of years-or if they wished they had discovered what they know now about the graduate student process. I also asked some professors if there were any characteristics or strategies they have observed among their own students who may have contributed to success. Talking with other graduate students and a handful of professors, it appears that suggestions and advice fall under three broad categories: time management issues, mental and physical health issues, and communication. Although many themes overlap into these three broad categories, I am including some of the more common themes that were offered during these conversations.

Time Management. Issues surrounding time management came up often during discussions. Perhaps one of the biggest areas of consternation, everyone (especially from self-identified procrastinators) had mentioned some aspect of graduate school where strategic time management skills were needed in order to manage the first couple of years. Some of the advice offered follow.

"Try not to take on more than you can chew." Easier said than done in most cases, many students overwhelm themselves early in the game. With coursework, comprehensive exams, teaching and research assistantships,

departmental functions, and involvement with various activities and organizations, it can become difficult to put adequate effort into everything at one time. Being ambitious is fine, just remember to prioritize in order to stay on top of it all.

"Try not to get too caught up and overwhelmed your first couple of years." This piece of advice is a variation of the above. However, some students commented that this also includes getting too caught up in departmental politics. Consider keeping a low profile your first year to allow yourself time to observe how the department operates. Nurture this time to recognize nuances about the department and individuals that you may not learn directly from other students or faculty.

"Procrastination hurts. . . a lot!" Yes, Marx was a notorious procrastinator, and still managed his education quite well. However, he also was vilified, banished from multiple countries and impoverished (not necessarily in that order). Before asking what the point of that example was, keep in mind that even the most successful students in a department have experienced bouts of procrastination. For me, nothing elicits more psychic, mental, emotional and physical anguish than procrastinating a final paper or research assignment-and I have done it often over the years. Finally, professors (those who will admit to this) procrastinate too. They do not, however, appreciate it in their students.

Mental and Physical Health Issues. Concerns over physical and mental well-being are all too common among students. With good reason, grad students are often more concerned with issues of health insurance and access to health facilities than undergraduates. It is also important to note that the health issues of immediate family and friends may also seriously impact your academic progress. Although we do not often think about how others may play a part in our continued success through school, the health concerns of loved ones can slow down one's progress.

I know of several students (myself included) who have been affected by the deteriorating health of parents, children and partners, who have dealt with unexpected health emergencies and procedures, been in accidents, and experienced childbirth during graduate school. These issues add to the unique dilemmas and problems experienced by grads, and one overarching suggestion that deals with these concerns is: "expect the unexpected."

"Don't be afraid to seek help." Many campuses offer student advising or counseling services. Additionally, they may offer seminars and workshops on other issues that may indirectly affect your progress (e.g., stress management, body image issues, etc.) These are great tools, and it also helps to be familiar with the types of resources offered on campus. If not for yourself, than for others.

"Do have a life outside of graduate school. Nurture personal time and space." Although this suggestion seems trite and obvious, oftentimes students forget that one can exist within, and without, graduate school. Seek out classes and activities outside the department. Meet other grads from other disciplines. They can provide the support you need from other grads, and provide the added bonus of being unbiased when it comes to immediate departmental issues. Consider making friends and connections outside of academia, as well. Work hard at your degree; play harder.

Communication. Many students could not stress the need to keep open lines of communication with other grads and faculty. E-mail, phone and face-to-face conversations helped many individuals get through trying times during their first couple of years.

"Start a relationship with faculty early." Consider introducing yourself to faculty members immediately. Having a mentor or an advisor early on can help a student feel more stable and in-touch with goals and expectations.

"Talk about your interests and ideas with other grads and faculty. Develop your niche." Think about having discussions about your academic interests with others. They can help you to hone your ideas and develop successful ways to meet your goals.

"Make connections with grad students who have been around longer." They have been there for a while and can give you advice and clarity on particular issues. They can help debunk myths about the department or about particular professors, provide insight about how they got through their first years, and tell you about the lessons they have learned over the years. They can also mention what to look out for and who to avoid.

Other insights and suggestions. Finally, students offered many useful suggestions that did not necessarily fit into time management, health and communication issues. These insights are useful (and colorful) nonetheless!

"Don't forget to eat!" Yes, a hard one to fathom for many of us. Forget to eat? But this one resonated with me when it was mentioned. I recall times when I had gone many days in a hectic month surviving on red licorice and black coffee. For instance, as difficult as comprehensive exams are, it is made even more complicated when one has not had a decent meal in days.

"Try to steer clear of gossip." It does not take much to get entangled in some messy situations.

"Make it a point to say 'hello' to people in the department you meet in the hallways-especially professors" A simple hello in passing may help professors recognize you in the future. Even if you may not take a class or work with them in the future, it is nice to be recognized by faculty. They may not know you yet, but they will.

"Be friendly, patient, courteous, appreciative and respectful of department staff." When it comes to department staff (e.g., secretaries, administrative help, work-study assistants), it will make your life a lot simpler if you extend even the most simple gestures of kindness and appreciation to them. In other words, do say "hello" to them on a regular basis too.

Thanks again to those who contributed their time and ideas to this piece. Please feel free to email me at nagaim@colorado.edu if you have any questions, comments or feedback on this piece. If there is anything you would like to see addressed in the future, please feel free to drop me a note. Thank you!
